

SECRET

22 September 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Staff Meeting Minutes of 22 September 1981

The Director chaired the meeting. []

25X1

The Director reported he testified last week before the HPSCI and SSCI on a wide range of activities, including Covert Action, and the sessions went well. []

25X1

The Director noted forthcoming activities on the Hill regarding Identities Legislation, the two versions--House and Senate--and his belief that one of them will pass. He further noted that Executive Order 12036 discussions will begin in the Senate on 23 September. []

25X1

The Director said the general budget guidelines for FY 1982 had been issued. Admiral Inman noted the Community has been given a [] and almost all of the budget reductions will be coming [] Admiral Inman said that some of these reductions will have to be restored in order to allow [] and added that all NFIP programs ultimately will be affected. []

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Admiral Inman warned all to be aware of possible surprise reductions in the budget from the Appropriations Committees. []

25X1

The Director said he will testify on FOIA on 24 September 1981. []

25X1

In response to the Director's question, McMahon said the NFAC re-organization will be effective 1 October and everything is moving ahead. []

25X1

25X1

Fitzwater reported that State Department shortly will be issuing its guidelines for hazardous duty pay and that cities affected are San Salvador, Kabul, and Beirut. []

25X1

The Director noted that HPSCI will conduct an investigation of the Wilson/Terpil case. Briggs reported he had arranged with Tom Latimer, HPSCI Staff Director, to have the IG package provided to the Chairman of HPSCI for his review. He added that Agency efforts to compile pertinent information on the Wilson/Terpil case are proceeding. []

25X1

Gates reminded those Morning Meeting attendees who had not submitted their comments regarding proposals to relocate the Center for the Studies on Intelligence to have them in no later than cob today. []

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[REDACTED]

McMahon said Admiral Murphy had requested a list of candidates for the PFIAB Staff. [REDACTED]

25X1

The Director noted that he is concerned about the reasons people are giving for leaving the Agency and wants to find ways to overcome some of the problems cited by those people as reasons for leaving. A general discussion ensued. [REDACTED]

25X1

Stein noted that contrary to Jack Anderson's column this morning (attached), DDO has not been involved in any of the activities noted in the article. [REDACTED]

25X1

25X1

[REDACTED]

Gates reported that Chief, CI's briefing of HPSCI on Nosenko [REDACTED] went well. [REDACTED]

25X1

25X1

Fitzwater discussed the problems between GSA employees and Headquarters personnel and asked all Deputy Directors and independent office heads to talk to their employees about extending courtesy to the GSA employees.

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[REDACTED]

Attachment:
As stated

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JACK ANDERSON

CIA Has Begun Triple Assault On Information

In a triple assault on the public's right to know, the CIA is trying to shut off channels of information to the electorate, is seeking criminal penalties against reporters whose stories might identify CIA operatives, and is spreading "disinformation" to news agencies.

The most disturbing is the disinformation campaign. This poisons the well from which Americans draw the facts they need to govern themselves. The wise Thomas Jefferson sought to lay this issue to rest two centuries ago when he argued that the people's right to know is more important than the officials' right to govern.

Now along comes William J. Casey, the CIA director, with the argument that the government has the right to mislead the public by planting phony stories in the press. His purpose, ostensibly, is patriotic. He wants to build public support for the political, economic and military measures that the Reagan administration believes are necessary to counter the worldwide conspiracies of the Soviet Union.

Legal experts have warned that the CIA is forbidden by law from

conducting operations within the United States, and that disinformation aimed at the American public, therefore, would be illegal. But Casey has found a way that he apparently thinks the CIA can get around the law. The disinformation will be planted with foreign news bureaus whose stories are picked routinely up by U.S. newspapers.

Thus the phony stories may be concocted by CIA dissemblers in McLean, Va., but will reach the American audience circuitously through foreign sources.

Trusted CIA sources have told my associate Ron McRae that the foreign press, in the words of one insider, "is already being manipulated directly."

Consider the campaigns to discredit Libya's radical ruler, Muammar Qaddafi, for example. There should be no need to portray him as being any more vile than he is. He has committed outrages that should be sufficiently repugnant to arouse American public opinion against him. I have called Qaddafi the world's most irresponsible ruler, and have backed up this opinion with facts that need no embellishment.

But under Casey, the CIA is busily creating rumors connecting Qaddafi to the slave trade in Mauritania, the only nation that still auctions people on the block.

The CIA is also spreading stories that Qaddafi is manipulating Libyan accounts in international banks and

otherwise mismanaging the Libyan peoples' petrodollars.

The agency has even considered arranging the disappearance of a moderate Moslem leader after a visit to Libya. This could revive the outrage against Qaddafi in the Moslem world that followed the disappearance of a holy man, Mousa Sadr. He never returned from Libya after a set-to with the dictator.

What Casey doesn't understand is that truth is the most effective method of persuading people and influencing events. If the U.S. government could re-establish its credibility, its word could become a powerful weapon for combating communism.

Footnote: Casey has done his utmost to obstruct the flow of CIA information to the public. He has also sought criminal penalties against reporters who divulge the identity of CIA agents. These steps are necessary, he has contended, to protect the CIA's secret operations.

The truth is that the CIA's ineptness, not newspaper stories, has jeopardized secret activities and exposed its operatives.

The CIA has complained loudly that its station chief in Athens, Robert Welch, was gunned down because his identity was revealed in anti-CIA publications. But the CIA station chief had occupied the same house in Athens for two decades, and sight-seeing guides used to point it out to tourists.

DIG GEORGE VIRGIL PARTCH



DENNIS THE MENACE HANK KETCHAM

